

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00787 151752Z

44

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IOE-00 /069 W

----- 123331

P R 151540Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4189

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 909

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 00787

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SF, UN

SUBJECT: INDICATIONS THAT SOUTH AFRICA WILL NOT

WITHDRAW FROM UN

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. FOLLOWING SOME SPECULATION THAT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD WITHDRAW FROM UNITED NATIONS, INDICATIONS ARE THAT IT WILL REMAIN IN THE WORLD BODY. PERHAPS BEST EVIDENCE OF THIS FOUND IN REMARKS BY PRIME MINISTER DURING CONVERSATION TODAY WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM. END SUMMARY.

2. EARLY EDITION OF NOVEMBER 14 ARGUS (CAPE TOWN) CARRIED REPORT FROM NEW YORK THAT IT WAS BELIEVED LIKELY SOUTH AFRICA'S AMBASSADOR TO UN, PIK BOTHA, WOULD PROPOSE CUTTING THE REPUBLIC'S REMAINING LINKS WITH UN. HOWEVER, LATE EDITION OF ARGUS SAID THAT SUCH SUGGESTION WAS BEING  
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 CAPE T 00787 151752Z

"DISMISSED AS OUT OF LINE WITH PRESENT GOVERNMENT THINKING."

3. ARTICLE IN LATE EDITION SAID THAT WHILE NO COMMENT COULD BE OBTAINED FROM DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA), IT HAD BEEN LEARNED FROM "OFFICIAL SOURCES" THAT DFA "WAS NOT UNDULY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA'S CONTINUED ROLE AT THE UN, EVEN ACCEPTING NON-PARTICIPATION IN ASSEMBLY BUSINESS."

4. DFA UNDER SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, JOHN OXLEY, TOLD POL COUNSELOR THIS MORNING THAT DECISION WHETHER OR NOT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD REMAIN IN UN HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE. NOTHING WILL BE DECIDED UNTIL AFTER PIK BOTHA, WHO RETURNS TO PRETORIA TOMORROW, MEETS WITH PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AND FONMIN MULLER OVER WEEKEND.

5. HOWEVER, OXLEY IMPLIED THAT HE THOUGHT SOUTH AFRICA WOULD NOT RPT NOT WITHDRAW FROM UN. HE SAID: "I THINK HE (BOTHA) MIGHT STAY AWAY FROM THE ASSEMBLY FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR. THEN HE WOULD RETURN TO NEW YORK NEXT YEAR TO TAKE UP HIS PLACE AS HEAD OF OUR MISSION THERE."

6. OXLEY'S COMMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH WHAT DFA DEPUTY SECRETARY VAN DALSEN TOLD DCM LAST NIGHT. VAN DALSEN SAID BOTHA'S RETURN SIMPLY A MATTER OF HIS COMING HOME FOR CONSULTATIONS. STAFF OF SOUTH AFRICA'S PERMANENT DELEGATION TO UN WILL REMAIN IN NEW YORK.

7. PERHAPS BEST EVIDENCE THAT SAG PROBABLY INTENDS TO STAY IN UN WAS GIVEN BY PRIME MINISTER DURING CONVERSATION WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY EASUM THIS AFTERNOON. VORSTER SAID DECISION TO REMAIN IN OR LEAVE UN WOULD DEPEND ON SITUATION. HE WOULD DISCUSS MATTER WITH BOTHA AND DETERMINE WHAT WAS IN BEST INTERESTS OF SOUTH AFRICA. VORSTER THEN SAID THAT DESPITE MANY CALLS FOR WITHDRAWAL, HE THOUGHT "MY PEOPLE WILL ACCEPT MY DECISION."  
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## Message Attributes

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**TAGS:** PFOR, PORG, SF, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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